

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing a plurality of sessions, the sessions being between a plurality of terminals and a server having a plurality of threads, the method comprising:

assigning the sessions to a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions;

assigning a thread to each group of sessions; and

sending events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which assigning sessions occurs when a session is created.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which assigning sessions occurs when a session becomes active.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which one group is provided for each thread so that there are equal numbers of groups and threads.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which sessions are assigned statically to particular groups and therefore to particular threads.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which assigning sessions further includes assigning a session to a first group in a first time period before suspension of the

session and assigning the session to a second group in a second time period following resumption of the session.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6 in which the second group is chosen on the basis of the relative levels of activity of the first and second groups.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 6 in which the second group is chosen randomly.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which each group has a queue and each session assigned to a corresponding group has its events put into that queue.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which the sessions are assigned to groups by a thread referred to as an acceptor thread.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10 in which the acceptor thread calls a function which is answered by notification that a new session has been created and then assigns the new session to a particular group.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which at least some of the sessions remain open for an undetermined period of time until closed and are either inactive or active while open.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which the terminals comprise mobile terminals.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 in which the terminals comprise cellular telephones.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which load balancing is performed when assigning the sessions.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which the sessions involve obtaining information or conducting transactions through the Internet.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 in which the sessions are part of the Wireless Session Protocol (WSP).

18. (Previously Presented) A server for managing a plurality of sessions with a plurality of terminals, the server comprising a plurality of threads, first assigning means for assigning the sessions to a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions, second assigning means for assigning a thread to each group of sessions, and means for sending events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

19. (Previously Presented) A server according to claim 18 comprising a gateway server serving sessions from a plurality of mobile terminals.

20. (Previously Presented) A server according to claim 19 comprising a Wireless Application Protocol-Hypertext Transfer Protocol (WAP-HTTP) gateway.

21. (Previously Presented) A communications system comprising a server and a plurality of terminals, the server and the terminals conducting a plurality of sessions, the server comprising a plurality of threads, first assigning means for assigning the sessions into a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions, second assigning means for assigning at least one thread to each group of sessions, and means for sending events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program product for managing a plurality of sessions, the sessions being between a plurality of terminals and a server having a plurality of threads, comprising:

computer readable program means for assigning the sessions to a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions;

computer readable program means for assigning a thread to each group of sessions; and

computer readable program means for sending events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

23. (Previously Presented) A server according to claim 18 in which the first assigning means and the second assigning means are the same means.

24. (Previously Presented) A server for managing a plurality of sessions between the server and a plurality of terminals, the server comprising at least one processor configured to create a plurality of threads in response to at least the sessions and to assign the sessions to a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions, the at least one processor configured to assign a thread to each group of sessions, and configured to send events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

25. (Previously Presented) A server according to claim 24 in which the at least one processor is configured to assign a session to a first group in a first time period before suspension of the session and is configured to assign the session to a second group in a second time period following resumption of the session.

26. (Previously Presented) A server according to claim 24 in which at least some of the sessions remain open for an undetermined period of time until closed and are either inactive or active while open.

27. (**Currently Amended**) A computer readable medium storing a computer program product for managing a plurality of sessions, the sessions being between a plurality of terminals and a server having a plurality of threads, the computer program product tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by at least one processor to perform operations comprising:

assigning the sessions to a plurality of groups such that at least some of the groups have multiple sessions;

assigning a thread to each group of sessions; and

sending events for any sessions assigned to a group to a corresponding assigned thread so that the corresponding assigned thread only handles the events of that group of sessions.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer program product according to claim 27 in which the operation of assigning sessions further includes the operations of assigning a session to a first group in a first time period before suspension of the session and assigning the session to a second group in a second time period following resumption of the session.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer program product according to claim 24 in which at least some of the sessions remain open for an undetermined period of time until closed and are either inactive or active while open.